SUBJECTS.

THE SEVENTH DAY.

20th February 1911.

The Assembly met again at 11 A. M. on Monday, the 20th February. The consideration of the Local Subjects was resumed.

(4) PADMANABHAPURAM DIVISION.

91. Supply of wholesome water for drinking purposes to the town of Nagercoil.

Mr. D. Francis (Member, Nominated) said, on behalf of Mr. V. Sankaranarayana Iyer (Member, T. I. C., Nagercoil) who was absent, that pure water for drinking purposes was a desideratum in Nagercoil. The only feasible course was to divert water from some of the channels, such as the Anandankulam Channel. A sum of not less than Rs. 50,000 and not more than a lac of rupees would be required. He requested that the matter might receive the earnest attention of the Government and he added that the people of the town were prepared to pay any water cess which the Government might levy for the purpose.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

92. Improvement of the rainfed irrigation tanks in the Midalam, Killiyur and Nattalam pakuthies.

Mr. P. Krishna Pillai (Member, Eraniel Taluk) said that the *pakuthies* of Midalam, Killiyur and Nattalam covered about 16,930 acres, *i.e.*, one-third of the whole area of the taluk but there were only 2,156 acres of paddy land in the locality. Even that small area suffered from frequent failure of crops, owing to scarcity of rain, and the prayer for opening a branch from the Kodayar Left Bank Channel to irrigate those lands was not granted by the Government. The tanks in the locality were all silted up and it was difficult to store in them the water which came down in great quantity during the rainy season from the adjoining uplands. The truth of the statement would be evident from the fact that the Kumbhom crop of the current year failed, even though there was sufficient rain during the last North East Monsoon. The average rainfall of the taluk was far less than that of the neighbouring taluks. The Member therefore prayed that at least two tanks in each *pakuthi* be restored every year, so that the people might be saved from starvation and the Government also freed from the necessity of sanctioning frequent remissions of tax on

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SUBJECTS.

account of failure of crops. He added that the tanks which stood in need of immediate repair were the Uthiannurkulam and Thamarakulam in Kanjirakottu, Perunkulam in Nelveli and the Puthukulam, Varyakarakulam and Kannanbarakulam in Nattalam.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

93. Construction of a bridge at Valiattumukham on the Padmanabhapuram-Kulasekaram road.

Mr. P. S. Maruthanayagom Pillai (Member, Kalkulam Taluk) said that there was a causeway on the Padmanabhapuram–Kulasekaram road across the Paraliar. The causeway had to be used by the people of the Tovala, Agasteeswaram, Eraniel and Kalkulam taluks. There were four markets to which carts had to go through the causeway In the rainy season, it would be under water for about a month and during that period several accidents used to happen. He requested that a bridge might be constructed at the place.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

94. Water supply to the Vilavancode taluk for irrigation purposes.

Mr. K. Raman Tampi (Member, Vilavancode Taluk)said that, though the taluk formed part of the Padmanabhapuram division, it was not in any way benefited by the Kodayar Project works. The irrigation tanks were all in a state of utter disrepair. The ryots mainly depended on the rains for their cultivation, and, owing to the failure of the monsoon, the ryots lost heavily from year to year, and the Government also had to grant remissions of tax systematically. If the Right Bank Channel and a channel to Tengapattanom were cut, the whole taluk would have plenty of water, and the people would be prepared to pay any cess which the Government might put upon them for the purpose. The question had been brought before the Assembly, but it had not so far received the favourable consideration of the Government. He requested that the matter might be reconsidered. If the prayer could not be granted, he said that the irrigation tanks should be repaired at once and that the ryots would contribute one-fourth of the cost, or, if required, even more.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

(5) TRIVANDRUM DIVISION.

95. Construction of two bridges.

Mr. Kanakku Aiyappan Narayanan (Member, Neyyattinkara Taluk) requested that two bridges might be constructed over the canals near the Marayamuttam and Perunkadavila markets respectively. The absence of

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